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A TRVE COPPY
OF A
LETTER
FROM OXFORD.

Sent from a private friend to a
Merchant of good worth in the City of
London and by him presented to the
Honorable House of Commons,
and Read there.

Setting forth the State of affaires at Oxford,
and the present Condition of the
Cavalliers.

Published for the satisfaction of all those that
desire to be truly informed.

L O N D O N,

Printed for *Frances Leach* and *Francis Coles*, and
are to be sold in the Oldbaily.

Decemb. 21. 1642.

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MAY 28, 1913

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ENGLISH HISTORICAL TRACTS



A
TRUE COPIE
OF A
LETTER
From OXFORD.



Y worthy friend whom
my soul loves, in brief
our case is thus: All
our forces are out in
parties, some at *Banbury, Worcester.*
Wallingford, Redding, and some
are now going againe against *Ay-*
lisbury, our Ordnance and Am-
muni-

munition are disper'st likewise, so that we have the least part of our strength here with us, and easie had it beene the last week to have taken us, nor hard is it yet if well followed. The Parliament pursuing us so furiously this winter puts us to our wits end, and fills us all with great feare, insomuch that our foot especially are weary of their services, some of them have mutined, and most of our Dragooneers are in miserable case, wanting shooes, bootes and stockings, their horses are quite beaten out, and the Parliament approaching their quarters undoeth them, they know not where to rest, or how to secure themselves. The King is now in great

exigences than ever, for he knows
 not how to raise any more money
 all our springs are exhausted, the
 Lords are consumed, their plate is
 melted and spent, and now grow
 they sad and look pitifully, besides
 the rising of the Countries doth
 much trouble and terrifie us, for if
 they proceed (as I believe you
 wish) roundly upon us, thus to
 prosecute us, wee shall bee all in a
 pin-fold, and you must necessarily
 have your will sodainly upon us,
 for our excursions being stopped,
 we must needs either bee taken or
 famish. Prince *Rupert* thinkes of
Northampton, think you of it be-
 fore him, *Salisbury* is generally in
 our presence, and wee have
 thoughts thither, and it would bee
 well

well in our way to meet sir *Ralph Hopton*. The King is in such exigency, that he is glad to sell the oxen and beasts which are taken, and with those monies hee maintaines his table: our Cavalliers say, if he yeeld they are all undone, so that there is no peace to bee expected with them, without pretermiſſion of their wickedneſſe, which I hope you Round-heads will not permit, strike, I ſay ſtrike, for now the iron is hot, you have a God and an opportunity that will not fail you, proceed and feare not, and if my words prove not truth diſcard me forever, ſhew it as you find cauſe, but conceale my name, and God grant you hearts to believe, and make ſodaine uſe of it.

Oxford, Decemb. 15. 1642.

Yours in all ſervice,

A Postscript.

Our Powder is spent, but wee will
 make more, if you will let us, ballers
 we make daily, and wee purpose to cast
 Ordnance, if you doe not prevent us:
 Many Pentioners and other of his
 Maiesties Servants are cashired for
 their non attendance, our Schollers are
 become Captaines, a good Scoutinger
 is worth a Kingdome, being the very
 key of the worke, and for want of it,
 many rare opportunities are lost. Dig-
 by and VVillmot are at Euston,
 and some are at VVoodstock. His
 Maiestie hath proclaimed free
 pardon to the Inhabitants of Bristoll,
 so that they will lay down their Armes
 He hath made Proclamation also that
 all

all his good Subiects if they know of
 any disigne of any of the Parliaments
 forces against any of his Maiesties,
 give speedy notice thereof to the cheife
 Officers of His Maiesties next
 Quarters.

FINIS.

